



**SUFFOLK COUNTY PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER AND
AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS LICENSING BOARD**
c/o Suffolk County Fire-Rescue, 102 East Avenue, Yaphank, NY 11980-0127
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Minutes of June 18, 2020 General Meeting

The meeting was brought to order D. Lynch at 10:03 am via Zoom.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Motion to accept the minutes from the February 20, May 21, and June 2 (Special Meeting) made by M. Matteo and seconded by J. Meyer.

Public Comment Period

- None.

Correspondence

Email received from Joseph Bonilla for Captain Fire; forwarded to all Board members on 6/5/2020 for review.

Letter sent to Albert Duspiva from Commissioner Jordan naming him the new Industry Representative on the Board.

Application(s) Review

All Applications continue to be on hold per the commissioner.

Review of Reported Complaints

All violation reviews continue to be on hold until further notice.

Report of the Chairperson

- *None.*

Report of the County Attorney

- *N. Sagapuram reported that Dennis Cohen was appointed as the new County Attorney.*

Report of Fire Marshal

- *D. Lynch apologized that Zoom meetings can be confusing and awkward and thanked everyone for their ongoing patience and understanding. He also apologized to the industry members and thanked them again for their patience; this is a new situation and he assured them that our office and the Board are continuing to do the best we can in these uncertain times.*

Report of FMASCO

- *None.*

Report of Industry Representatives

- *J. Meyer, no report.*
- *A. Duspiva, no report.*

Report of Authorities Having Jurisdiction

- *None present.*

Unfinished Business

a) NAFED online training for new applicants.

10/19: Al Duspiva (A's Sheet Metal) stated that he has not taken online training, but has been to plenty classroom. He will look into the online training and report back.

J. Meyer stated that he will look into it as well but still believes that the manufacturer extinguisher training is better than the NAFED courses.

M. Matteo stated that we should take a good look at this as the AHJ's look to the contractors as the SME's. We need to ensure the training that the employee's receive is proper. He would also like to look into the training.

Received a letter from Larry LoVerde of Firematic in regard to the online training. He stated that the online training was pretty good with a certificate issued after a 30 question test at the end. But a hands-on training is definitely better, although it is costly at around \$800/day and usually out of state.

Al Duspiva (A's Sheet Metal) stated that although it is free for members, he had trouble logging on since he owns the business vs. being an individual in the field. He states that a class needs to cover ALL aspects of training, how to fill the extinguisher, but also what to do with it in the field after, including, selection, placement and hanging, etc.

There are no definitive answers as to whether this online training will be sufficient at the moment, and continued research is necessary. Motion was made by M. Matteo that the board draft and send a letter to NAFED requesting that the board be granted access to view these classes in order to review and see if this training would meet our requirements. The motion was seconded by J. Meyer.

Still awaiting response from NAFED for access to review classes. Tabled for further review.

No progress to report 1/16/2020

Al Duspiva (A's Sheet Metal) stated he was sick and unable to follow up; he will have more information for the next meeting. 2/19/20

Due to the recent COVID-19 pandemic, no one has had the chance to follow up. The discussion is tabled until further notice.

b) Renewal Applications/New Applications

The Board is going to work on getting the application process moving again. The Board will make a recommendation to the Commissioner for permission to move forward with application and violations, as well as testing. Discussion ensued regarding space at the Fire Academy for meetings and testing site. The Board will meet at the Fire Academy where there will be social distancing and use of face masks in order to keep all members and public attendees safe. The Board will submit a plan to the Commissioner for approval to move forward.

New Business

a) Email from Joseph Bonilla of Captain Fire

Email from Joseph Bonilla addressed; unfortunately our hands are tied at the moment due to the pandemic and there is not much we can do until we are able to safely meet and administer tests. The Board will make every effort to administer a written test as soon as possible. Mr. Bonilla thanked the Board and he understands and appreciates our efforts. Mr. Bonilla also made the Board aware the he has a new facility location; he will submit a new application with the updated information and new insurance certificates. His Ansel representative is also in the process of changing his certificate and updating it from Texas to New York.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2020 at 10:00 AM.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by M. Matteo, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:21 AM.

(T) – Teleconferenced

MEMBERS PRESENT	GUESTS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
Mike Matteo	Joseph Bonilla	Ryan Fischer
Jim Meyer		Brianne Minden
Donald Lynch		Niranjan Sagapuram
Al Duspiva		